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LETTER DATED 23 DECEMBER 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that, during the period from 11 to 20 December 1994, United States aircraft continued to violate Iraqi airspace for the purposes of reconnaissance and provocation.

11 December 1994

(a) Northern region: 13 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at medium altitude, centred on Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Amadiyah and Ayn Zalah.

(b) Southern region: 46 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at medium altitude, centred on Nasiriyah, Samawah, Chabayish, Jalibah, Artawi, Qurnah and Busayyah.

- At 0925 hours on 11 December 1994, a United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft violated Iraqi airspace, flying at a speed of 600 km/h and an altitude of 20,000 metres over the regions of Nasiriyah, Qal'at Salih, Jalibah, Artawi, Chabayish and Lasaf before departing at 1115 hours in the direction of Kuwait.

12 December 1994

(a) Northern region: 19 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at medium altitude, centred on Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Zakho, Tall Afar and Amadiyah.

(b) Southern region: 62 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at medium altitude, centred on Artawi, Busayyah, Samawah, Chabayish, Suq al-Shuyukh and Ushbayja.

- At 0955 hours and 1230 hours on 12 December 1994, two TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft violated Iraqi airspace, flying at a speed of 600 km/h and an altitude of 20,000 metres over the southern region of Iraq before departing respectively at 1145 hours and 1419 hours in the direction of Kuwait.

13 December 1994

(a) Northern region: eight sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at medium altitude, centred on Mosul, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Zakho and Amadiyah.

(b) Southern region: 45 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at medium altitude, centred on Nasiriyah, Samawah, Salman, Qurnah, Jalibah and Artawi.

- At 1110 hours on 13 December 1994, two United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft violated Iraqi airspace, flying at a speed of 600 km/h and an altitude of 20,000 metres over the regions of Nasiriyah, Qurnah, Amarah, Samawah, Jalibah and Artawi before departing at 1355 hours in the direction of Saudi Arabia.

14 December 1994

(a) Northern region: 17 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at medium altitude, centred on Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Zakho, Aqrah, Tall Afar and Amadiyah.

(b) Southern region: 48 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at medium altitude, centred on Nasiriyah, Basra, Qurnah, Samawah, the area south of Najaf, Artawi, Jalibah and Ushbayja.

15 December 1994

(a) Northern region: 15 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at medium altitude, centred on Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Zakho and Amadiyah.

(b) Southern region: 32 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at medium altitude, centred on Nasiriyah, Samawah, Busayyah, Jalibah, Qurnah, Artawi and Shatrah.

- On the same day, two United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at speeds of 600 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 20,000 metres violated Iraqi airspace in areas in the south of the country, one at 1200 hours and the other at 1520 hours. They left in the direction of Kuwait at 1300 and 1630 hours respectively.

16 December 1994

Southern region: 24 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at medium altitude, centred on Artawi, Jalibah, Samawah, Nasiriyah and Busayyah.

17 December 1994

(a) Northern region: 13 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at medium altitude, centred on Artawi, Chabayish, Qurnah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Salman and Jalibah.

18 December 1994

Southern region: 125 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at medium altitude, centred on Nasiriyah, Samawah, Amarah, Artawi, Busayyah, Jalibah and Chabayish.

- On the same day, two United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at speeds of 600 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 20,000 metres violated Iraqi airspace in areas in the south of the country, one at 1115 hours and the other at 1345 hours. They left in the direction of Kuwait at 1211 and 1458 hours respectively.

19 December 1994

Southern region: 129 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at medium altitude, centred on Nasiriyah, Jalibah, Samawah, Salman, Chabayish and Qurnah.

- On the same day, two United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at speeds of 600 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 20,000 metres violated Iraqi airspace, one at 0945 hours and the other at 1255 hours. They left in the direction of Kuwait at 1055 and 1353 hours respectively.

20 December 1994

(a) Northern region: 21 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at medium altitude, centred on Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Dukan and Amadiyah.

(b) Southern region: 73 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at medium altitude, centred on Artawi, Jalibah, Busayyah, Qurnah, the south of Diwaniyah and Salman.

- On the same day, three United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at speeds of 600 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 20,000 metres violated Iraqi airspace in the south of the country between 0930 hours and 1240 hours. They left in the direction of Saudi Arabia at 1030, 1320 and 1400 hours respectively.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative